



November 7, 2022

35th Annual Holiday Cottage

Supporting Foster Youth during the Holidays

(Bakersfield, CA)- The Department of Human Services is excited to announce our Grand Opening Ribbon Cutting Press Conference for our the 35th Anniversary Holiday Cottage. The Press Conference will be held at our Children's Visitation Park, located at 420 Alpine Street, Bakersfield, CA 93302.

Festivities begin at 10:30 a.m. and include a visit from Santa, arriving on a Kern County Fire Truck, as well as a children's choir, and opportunities to fulfill a child in foster care's holiday wish.

November 9, 2022 at 10:30 a.m. The celebration will be held at our Children's Visitation Park, located at 420 Alpine Street, Bakersfield, CA 93302.

As you may know, the Holiday Cottage was established 35 years ago to fulfill the wishes of children placed in Kern County foster and group homes. Each year with the help of community members, sponsors, KCDHS staff, and other donors we have been able to fill approximately 800 wishes. Donors can find these wishes, placed with the child's first name and their age, on our Human Services website (kcdhs.com). The gift is then purchased and wrapped to await for pickup by the foster parents in December. In December, our Holiday Cottage pickup location in our Bakersfield office location will be open for two weeks staffed by volunteers, representing local community groups, greeting and handing out gifts to the parents of foster youth.

We hope you can cover this celebration, as we rely entirely on the generosity of the community to fill these wishes. We would also be happy to make arrangements for any morning show or mid-day live coverage during the two weeks we our handing out gifts to foster parents in December. We appreciate any opportunities for in-studio interviews to promote the Holiday Cottage, which will remain open from **Tuesday, December 3rd, through Sunday, December 15th**. The Holiday Cottage will be open daily from 10:00am to 7:00pm, seven days a week. We hope that you can include us in any community calendar listings available!

For more information or for special arrangements, contact Jana Slagle at 661.342.8054 or slaglej@kerncounty.com.

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